

When the news finally validating all

the great abstractions  
reached me, I concluded

that WE! had won the battle  
for democracy and free-  
dom, the inevitable triumph

of justice over tyranny, blood  
of recent martyrs  
frothing us to a just peace!

But a soft misgiving  
perseverated I needn't voice here, which

I confided, though, to the truest  
political artist of our time, and he responded  
in that poetry so seeming-

ly effortless: Yo' balls on the  
block already, boy.

